

# Iowa Crops & Weather



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## Spring has Arrived with Rain

**Agricultural Summary:** The last few weeks of precipitation made it difficult for Iowa farmers to accomplish any fieldwork. While most areas remain too wet for field activities, a few farmers have begun applying lime and fertilizer, tilling, planting oats and applying nitrogen. There were a few reports of tiles running throughout the state.

There was 1 **day suitable for fieldwork**, compared to 3.5 days last year at this time. **Topsoil moisture** rated 3 percent very short, 9 percent short, 69 percent adequate, and 19 percent surplus across the state. **Subsoil moisture** rated 9 percent very short, 30 percent short, 55 percent adequate, and 6 percent surplus. The subsoil moisture rating is slightly drier than reported a year ago.

**Field Crops Report:** **Oats seedings** were 6 percent complete, well below last year's progress at 28 percent and the five-year average of 15 percent. No significant **corn planting** was reported in the state. **Primary seedbed preparations** were 24 percent complete compared to 29 percent last year and 26 percent for the five-year average. **Fertilizer applications**, at 53 percent, were 5 percentage points ahead of last year and 6 percentage points ahead of the five-year average.

**Livestock, Pasture and Range Report:** Calving season is off to a good start even with the wet conditions. The wet and muddy conditions increase concerns for calving, lambing, and other newborns. **Pasture and range** condition rated 10 percent very poor, 15 percent poor, 35 percent fair, 37 percent good and 3 percent excellent. The rainfall has made it difficult for farmers to access their feedlots and pastures.

## Iowa Preliminary Weather Summary

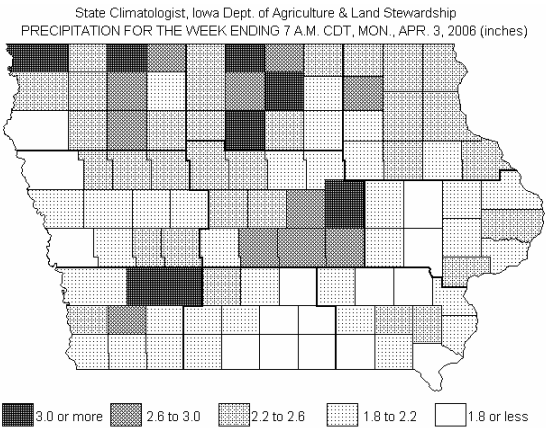
Iowa weather summary for the week ending 7 a.m. CDT, Monday, April 3, 2006: A trio of storm systems brought Iowa it wettest week in

11 months. The first system brought rain to all but extreme western Iowa, mixing with some snow in the northeast on Monday (27<sup>th</sup>). A pair of spring storms brought statewide rainfall and widespread severe weather on Thursday (30<sup>th</sup>) and Sunday (2<sup>nd</sup>). These last two storms each deposited a statewide average rain fall of nearly an inch. Rain totals for the week varied from 0.86 inches at Lamoni to 4.55 inches at Gilman in Marshall County. The statewide average precipitation was 2.25 inches or more than three times the weekly normal of 0.65 inches. Temperatures were below normal on Monday (27<sup>th</sup>) and Tuesday (28<sup>th</sup>) with highs only in the 30's and 40's. High temperatures across parts of southern Iowa reached into the 60's and 70's on Wednesday (29<sup>th</sup>), Thursday (30<sup>th</sup>) and Sunday (2<sup>nd</sup>) while most locations across northern Iowa failed to climb out of the 40's all week excepting for a brief warm-up on Thursday. Temperature extremes for the week ranged from a Wednesday (29<sup>th</sup>) morning low of 24 degrees at Elkader to afternoon highs of 73 degrees at Shenandoah on Thursday (30<sup>th</sup>) and Keosauqua on Sunday (2<sup>nd</sup>). Temperatures for the week as a whole averaged 4.1 degrees above normal.

Severe weather, mainly high wind, was reported from 38 counties on Thursday (30<sup>th</sup>) afternoon and evening with most reports across the western one-half of the state. Sunday's storms generated severe weather reports from 18 counties across central and southeastern Iowa with hail and brief tornadoes being the main features. The week's rains pushed many northern Iowa rivers above flood stage and brought southern Iowa streams back to normal flows for this time of year. The most significant flooding was occurring along the Big Sioux River and West Fork of the Des Moines River. However, water levels in shallow wells across southern Iowa remain unusually low. Finally, soil temperatures were averaging in the low to mid 40's statewide as of Sunday (2<sup>nd</sup>).

Statewide Crop Conditions as of April 2, 2006

Item	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent
Range & Pasture	10	15	35	37	3



Field Work and Crop Progress as of April 2, 2006

Item	Districts									State	Last Week	Last Year	Normal
	NW	NC	NE	WC	C	EC	SW	SC	SE				
	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent
Fertilizer application completed	48	64	32	55	65	48	66	57	30	53	0	48	37

Days Suitable & Soil Moisture Condition as of April 2, 2006

Item	Districts									State	Last Week	Last Year	
	NW	NC	NE	WC	C	EC	SW	SC	SE				
Days suitable	Days	Days	Days	Days	Days	Days	Days	Days	Days	Days	Days	Days	
	0.0	0.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	2.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	NA	3.5	
Topsoil moisture	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	
	Very short	0	0	6	4	1	0	15	5	1	3	NA	3
	Short	0	6	12	12	6	12	7	17	11	9	NA	14
	Adequate	67	77	52	81	72	87	65	58	56	69	NA	77
	Surplus	33	17	30	3	21	1	13	20	32	19	NA	6
Subsoil moisture	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	
	Very short	6	0	9	9	8	6	23	15	10	9	NA	3
	Short	7	11	29	35	29	44	31	47	42	30	NA	19
	Adequate	69	75	56	54	60	50	44	37	45	55	NA	73
	Surplus	18	14	6	2	3	0	2	1	3	6	NA	5

Weather Summary For Iowa Agricultural Statistics Service Prepared by AWIS, Inc. For the week ending: Sunday, April 2, 2006										
STATION	CURRENT WEEK					SINCE APRIL 1		CURRENT WEEK		
	TEMPERATURE				PRECIPITATION		PRECIPITATION		GDD BASE 50F	
	HI	LO	AVG	DFN	TOTAL	DFN	TOTAL	DFN	TOTAL	DFN
	North West District									
Estherville	59	32	42	6	2.58	2.03	1.16	1.00	0	0
Sioux Center	60	32	44	4	1.89	1.39	0.00	-0.14	4	-3
Spencer	59	31	43	5	2.38	1.83	0.66	0.50	2	-5
Spirit Lake	57	30	43	8	1.81	1.39	0.00	-0.07	0	-7
North Central District										
Britt	58	29	41	2	2.55	2.00	0.88	0.72	0	-7
Humboldt	62	24	42	2	2.05	1.45	0.64	0.46	1	-6
Mason City	57	29	43	5	3.07	2.51	0.95	0.79	0	-7
Osage	57	32	42	4	1.71	1.09	0.66	0.48	0	-7
North East District										
Decorah	61	25	45	5	2.01	1.39	0.74	0.55	2	-5
Dubuque	62	32	44	5	1.18	0.41	0.01	-0.21	6	-1
Elkader	66	23	43	3	1.77	1.16	0.05	-0.13	0	-14
Fayette	64	26	43	3	1.28	0.67	0.25	0.07	3	-4
Waterloo	69	33	45	5	1.56	0.92	0.31	0.12	8	1
West Central District										
Carroll	67	26	44	4	1.84	1.20	0.36	0.17	4	-3
Castana	67	26	45	3	1.37	0.81	0.31	0.15	2	-5
Guthrie Center	71	26	45	3	2.46	1.79	0.64	0.44	10	-2
Harlan	68	28	46	3	2.03	1.43	0.54	0.36	6	-1
Jefferson	70	25	44	4	2.34	1.70	0.47	0.28	6	-1
Logan	69	30	47	5	1.50	0.94	0.37	0.21	10	-4
Rockwell City	64	22	41	0	2.39	1.85	0.87	0.71	3	-6
Sac City	62	26	42	3	2.67	2.04	0.48	0.30	1	-6
Sioux City	66	29	47	5	1.17	0.68	0.02	-0.12	14	0
Central District										
Boone	69	29	43	2	2.47	1.82	0.82	0.62	5	-2
Des Moines	70	34	48	4	2.33	1.66	0.39	0.19	15	1
Grundy Center	68	33	44	6	1.96	1.33	0.76	0.58	6	-1
Marshalltown	69	34	46	6	1.55	0.90	0.47	0.27	9	2
Newton	68	29	44	1	1.54	0.91	0.24	0.06	6	-7
Perry	70	29	45	4	1.94	1.35	0.54	0.36	7	0
Toledo	66	26	43	4	2.03	1.40	0.58	0.40	6	-1
East Central District										
Cedar Rapids	65	31	44	3	1.06	0.41	0.23	0.03	6	-1
Davenport	66	37	47	5	1.01	0.35	0.00	-0.20	9	2
Iowa City	66	36	47	3	1.00	0.28	0.06	-0.16	9	-5
Lowden	65	24	44	4	1.34	0.61	0.01	-0.21	4	-3
Maquoketa	63	24	43	3	1.23	0.58	0.04	-0.16	2	-5
Muscatine	68	26	46	2	1.43	0.67	0.25	0.03	7	0
South West District										
Atlantic	71	32	48	7	1.19	0.65	0.00	-0.09	10	3
Clarinda	69	29	47	5	1.38	0.70	0.46	0.26	9	2
Glenwood	72	31	48	4	1.76	1.20	0.81	0.65	9	-4
Red Oak	70	31	48	3	2.00	1.34	0.82	0.62	11	-3
Sidney	70	28	47	3	1.24	0.61	0.66	0.48	10	-3
South Central District										
Allerton	68	25	45	2	1.28	0.62	0.24	0.04	7	2
Beaconsfield	66	27	45	2	2.04	1.39	0.39	0.19	5	-4
Chariton	70	27	46	3	1.44	0.76	0.53	0.33	8	-4
Indianola	70	31	46	3	1.90	1.23	0.37	0.17	7	-6
Leon	68	21	45	3	1.13	0.46	0.41	0.21	10	0
South East District										
Bloomfield	69	27	46	0	1.36	0.65	0.38	0.17	11	-4
Burlington	69	38	49	4	1.16	0.39	0.28	0.06	13	-1
Ottumwa	70	34	47	3	1.82	1.17	0.29	0.09	13	-1
Washington	67	27	45	-2	1.35	0.69	0.34	0.14	8	1

Precipitation (rain, melted snow or ice) in inches. Precipitation Days = Days with precipitation of 0.01 inch or more. Air Temperatures in Degrees Fahrenheit.  
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